



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/644,060	08/20/2003	Brad W. Blumberg	SMTR-002/01US	4358

22903 7590 12/15/2006

COOLEY GODWARD KRONISH LLP
ATTN: PATENT GROUP
THE BOWEN BUILDING
875 15TH STREET, N.W. SUITE 800
WASHINGTON, DC 20005-2221

EXAMINER

FIGUEROA, MARISOL

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2617

DATE MAILED: 12/15/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/644,060

Applicant(s)

BLUMBERG ET AL.

Examiner

Marisol Figueroa

Art Unit

2617

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 02 October 2006.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-26 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-26 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 8/20/2003 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

1. This Action is in response to Applicant's amendment filed on September 22, 2006. The Applicant amended claims 1, 3-7, 9-12, and added the new claims 18-26. Accordingly, claims 1-26 are currently pending in the present application.

Response to Arguments

2. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-26 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

3. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, this action is made FINAL.

Continuation Data

4. The present application is a continuation-in-part of application no. 09/774, 119 which is a continuation-in-part of application no. 09/639, 265 filed on August 15, 2000. However, some claimed new matter presented in the present application is not supported by application no. 09/639, 265, therefore the priority date considered is from the prior application 09/774, 119 filed on January 1, 2001.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

5. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

6. Claims 9-11 recites the limitation "the first set of location-centric information" in line 1. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

7. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

8. **Claims 1-3, 7, 8, and 18-23** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over WHARTON et al. (US 5,831,664) in view of KIMOTO et al. (US 6,115,611).

Regarding claim 1, Wharton discloses a method of retrieving location-centric information, comprising:

identifying a geographic location from a plurality of geographic locations within a base grid using an electronic device, the base grid defined by a plurality of volumes, the volumes defining the plurality of geographic locations within the base grid; identifying a property associated with the geographic location (col. 4, lines 47-61; as shown in figure 3, the user is presented with a map i.e., base grid, on the PDA that displays candidate homes and the location of these homes and when the user wishes to see details about a home, he or she taps on the appropriate number on the map of the PDA, note that by the user tapping on a home, the user identifies a property and a location which are both associated to each other since the map presents candidate home with their respective locations);

querying a database (Fig. 1; server 18) based on data associated with the property, receiving directly from the database a first information data set associated with the identified property; querying the database based on the first information data set; and receiving from the database a second information data set associated with the identified property (col. 5, lines 8-47; the house

Art Unit: 2617

information screen that appears on the PDA contains six information buttons (e.g., "FLOOR PLANS AND VIDEOS", etc.), when the users selects the "FLOOR PLANS AND VIDEOS" button a floor plan of the currently selected home appears in the information window (i.e., first information data set) and when a room is selected, information about the room (e.g., square footage, flooring type, etc.) appears in a text window on the PDA (i.e., second information data set)),

and the database including information associated with at least some of the plurality of the geographic locations within the base grid (Fig. 3A; the system provides information for the houses shown in the map);

But, Wharton does not expressly disclose that the geographic location is associated with a location of the electronic device. However, Kimoto teaches a mobile communication system which displays a map to a mobile terminal according to its present position with information of facilities or services related to the position of the mobile terminal (col. 17, lines 1-17; col. 34, line 45-col. 35, lines 1-42). Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person having ordinary skill in the art, to modify Wharton, to associate the identified geographic location (e.g. point on map) with the location of the electronic device, as suggested by Kimoto, in order to modify the search of available homes according to the current location of the user to provide directions to the houses from the location of the user (i.e., portable device).

Regarding claim 2, the combination of Wharton and Kimoto disclose the method of claim 1, Wharton discloses wherein identifying the geographic location includes the identifying the geographic location seamlessly (col. 4, lines 37-62; the user taps on the map to identify a location and its associated house).

Regarding claim 3, the combination of Wharton and Kimoto disclose the method of claim 1, Wharton discloses wherein querying a database based on data associated with the property

Art Unit: 2617

geographic location includes querying a database based on a geocode associated with the geographic location (col. 4, lines 47- 62; col. 6, lines 19-28; the user taps on the appropriate number on the map (i.e., geocode) which identifies a particular property and associated location that the user wishes to obtain information).

Regarding claim 7, Wharton discloses a computer executable software code stored on a computer-readable medium operable with a wireless device, the code for:

providing information related to a geographic location to an information system, the geographic location being located within a base grid (col. 4, lines 47-61; as shown in figure 3, the user is presented with a map i.e., base grid, on the PDA that displays candidates homes and the location of these homes, and when the user wishes to see details about a home, he or she taps on the appropriate number on the map of the PDA, note that by the user tapping on a home, the user identifies a location in which the property is located),

receiving a location identifier associated with a property at a geographic location from the information system (col. 4, lines 47-62; the PDA displays the results of an initial search of candidates homes within a map (Fig. 3a) indicating the location of the houses, i.e., properties, and an appropriate house number, i.e., identifier; note that the information is returned by the server 18, i.e., information system);

receiving a first menu of location-centric information associated with the property directly from the information system, the first menu having a plurality of selectable icons (col. 4, line 47 -- col. 5, lines 1-13; upon the user tapping on a appropriate house number on the map, shown in figure 3a, the PDA displays a house information screen containing six house information buttons (i.e., first menu with icons) at the top, shown in figures 3b-3c, that provide access to various categories of information about the selected home);

transmitting data associated with a selection of an icon from the plurality of icons to the information system; and receiving a second menu of location-centric information based on the selection, the second menu of having a plurality of selectable icons (col. 5, lines 42-47; upon selection of the "FLOORS PLANS AND VIDEOS" button (i.e., icon) from the house information screen, a floor plan (i.e., second menu) for the selected home appears in the information window, as shown in figure 3d, and icons for the floor plan are displayed (e.g., LR, G, K, front, back) that the user can select to know information about the room (e.g., square footage, flooring type, etc.)).

But, Wharton does not expressly disclose providing information related to a geographic location associated with a position of an electronic device to an information system, the geographic location being located within a base grid.

However, Kimoto teaches a mobile communication system which displays a map to a mobile terminal according to its present position with information of facilities or services related to the position of the mobile terminal (col. 17, lines 1-17; col. 34, line 45-col. 35, lines 1-42). Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person having ordinary skill in the art, to modify Wharton, to include the step of providing information related to a geographic location associated with a position of an electronic device to an information system within a base grid, as suggested by Kimoto, in order to modify the search of available homes according to the current location of the user to provide directions to the houses from the location of the user (i.e., portable device).

Regarding claim 8, the combination of Wharton and Kimoto disclose the computer-executable software code of claim 7, Wharton discloses wherein the code is configured to associate geocode based on the location-centric information (col. 4, lines 47- 62; col. 6, lines 19-28; the user taps on the appropriate number on the map (i.e., geocode) which identifies a particular property and associated location that the user wishes to obtain information).

Regarding claim 18, the combination of Wharton and Kimoto disclose the method of claim 1, Wharton disclose wherein the first information data set includes information associated with a potential real estate transaction at the identified property (col. 5, lines 8-47; the house information screen that appears on the PDA contains six information buttons (e.g., "FLOOR PLANS AND VIDEOS", etc.), when the users selects the "FLOOR PLANS AND VIDEOS" button a floor plan of the currently selected home appears in the information window (i.e., first information data set) which corresponds to information obtained in a potential real estate transaction).

Regarding claim 19, the combination of Wharton and Kimoto disclose the method of claim 1, Wharton disclose wherein the database is located at a geographic position different from the geographic position of the electronic device (Fig. 1; the server (i.e., database) is at a different location from the PDA's location).

Regarding claim 20, the combination of Wharton and Kimoto disclose the method of claim 1, Wharton discloses wherein the database is located at a geographic position different from the geographic position of the identified property (Fig. 1; the server 18 (i.e., database) is at a different location from the location of the houses).

Regarding claim 21, the combination of Wharton and Kimoto disclose the computer-executable software code of claim 7, Wharton discloses wherein the information system is located at a geographic position different from the geographic position of the electronic device (Fig. 1; the server (i.e., information system) is at a different location from the PDA's location).

Regarding claim 22, the combination of Wharton and Kimoto disclose computer-executable software code of claim 7, Wharton wherein the information system is located at a geographic position different from the geographic position of the property (Fig. 1; the server 18 (i.e., information system) is at a different location from the location of the houses).

Regarding claim 23, the combination of Wharton and Kimoto disclose the computer-executable software code of claim 7, Wharton discloses wherein the first menu of location-centric information includes information associated with a potential real estate transaction at the property (col. 5, lines 8-47; the house information screen shows six information buttons (i.e., first menu) that the user selects to access various categories of information associated with a real estate transaction such as a description of a property, floor plans, fact sheet, etc.).

9. **Claims 4, 5, 9, and 10** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over WHARTON et al. in view of KIMOTO et al., and further in view of WEBBER et al. (US 6,009,413).

Regarding claims 4 and 5, the combination of Wharton and Kimoto disclose the method of claim 1, but does not expressly disclose wherein receiving the first information data set associated with the identified property geographic location includes receiving the information associated with the identified property geographic location in real-time, and

wherein receiving the first information data set associated with the identified property includes receiving information that has been dynamically updated via a network, the dynamically updated information being associated with the identified geographic location.

However, receiving information from a database in real-time and which has been dynamically updated is well known in the art and Webber is evidence of the fact. Webber teaches a system in where a user can access a variety of information regarding products and services from the user's computer through a computer network in real-time. Each of the merchant's downloads to the computer network or regional host at least one each business day, detailed, and current information regarding products and/or services offered by the merchant. Then, when a user wants to get information about a product or a service, the user makes a request for product/service information

Art Unit: 2617

currently residing at the network database and receives updated (i.e., real-time) information associated with the product/service from the database since the merchants download the information to the network database regularly (abstract; col. 3, lines 10-23; col. 4, lines 1-18; col. 5, lines 18-56). Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention, to include the feature of receiving information from the database in real-time and information which has been dynamically updated, as suggested by Webber, in order for the user to react in "real time" to the information that acquires from the database (col. 2, lines 51-60).

Regarding claims 9 and 10, the combination of Wharton and Kimoto disclose the computer-executable software code of claim 7, but does not expressly disclose wherein the code for receiving the first set of location-centric information includes code for receiving the first set of location-centric information in real time, and

wherein the code for receiving the first set of location-centric information includes code for receiving the first set of location-centric information that has been dynamically updated via a network.

However, receiving information from a database in real-time and which has been dynamically updated is well known in the art and Webber is evidence of the fact. Webber teaches a system in where a user can access a variety of information regarding products and services from the user's computer through a computer network in real-time. Each of the merchant's downloads to the computer network or regional host at least one each business day, detailed, and current information regarding products and/or services offered by the merchant. Then, when a user wants to get information about a product or a service, the user makes a request for product/service information currently residing at the network database and receives updated (i.e., real-time) information associated with the product/service from the database since the merchants download the

Art Unit: 2617

information to the network database regularly (abstract; col. 3, lines 10-23; col. 4, lines 1-18; col. 5, lines 18-56). Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention, to include the feature of receiving information in real-time and information which has been dynamically updated, as suggested by Webber, in order for the user to react in "real time" to the information that acquires from the database (col. 2, lines 51-60).

10. **Claims 6 and 11** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over WHARTON et al. in view of KIMOTO et al., and further in views of WEBBER et al. and JUPPI et al. (US 2003/0092450 A1).

Regarding claim 6, the combination of Wharton and Kimoto disclose the method of claim 1, but does not expressly disclose wherein receiving the first information data set associated with the identified property geographic location includes: receiving information based on sensor data that has been dynamically updated via a network, the dynamically updated information being associated with the identified geographic location.

However, databases updated with sensor data are well known in the art and Juppi is evidence of the fact. Juppi teaches a database compiled from information measured by a local transmitter such as a weather probe or sensor that can be updated over time, and the information measured is transmitted to a mobile station (p.0033; p.0036-0038). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention, to include in the database sensor data that is dynamically updated, as suggested by Juppi, in order for a user to obtain the most recent information collected by a sensor, e.g., the weather conditions in his/her present location.

Regarding claim 11, the combination of Wharton and Kimoto disclose the computer-executable software code of claim 7, but does not expressly disclose wherein the code for receiving

Art Unit: 2617

the first set of location-centric information includes code for receiving the first set of location-centric sensor information, the sensor information being dynamically updated via a network.

However, receiving updated sensor data is well known in the art and Juppi is evidence of the fact. Juppi teaches a database compiled from information measured by a local transmitter such as a weather probe or sensor that can be updated over time, and the information measured is transmitted to a mobile station (p.0033; p.0036-0038). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention, to include in the database sensor data that is dynamically updated, as suggested by Juppi, in order for a user to obtain the most recent information collected by a sensor, e.g., the weather conditions in his/her present location.

11. **Claims 12, 13, 17, and 24-26** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over SOTIROFF et al. (US 5,852,810) in views of WANT et al. (6,122,520) and WHARTON et al.

Regarding claim 12, Sotiroff discloses a database stored on a computer-readable medium, comprising:

a plurality of location data fields, each location data field being associated with a location from a plurality of locations in a base grid; and a plurality of information data fields, at least one of the information data fields being associated with a location within the base grid (col.2, lines 18-28; col.2, line 62 - col.3, lines 1-9; col.5, lines 5-52; the database is accessed by a user through an Internet web page in which the user can point a location in a map image and information regarding properties in the selected location is displayed, moreover the database provides plurality fields of information from the properties in a geographic location such as apartment or house size, cost of property, number of bedrooms, availability of the apartment, etc.), the information data fields being configured to be updated dynamically via a network (col. 2, lines 12-14; col.2, lines 38-48).

But, Sotiroff does not expressly disclose that the base grid, i.e. map, is being defined in three-dimensional space. However, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art to define the base grid in three dimensional space since it would be a more accurate location database.

Furthermore, Sotiroff does not expressly disclose wherein the electronic device is located at the one location from the plurality of locations; and

wherein the database is configured to output location-centric information associated with a property at one of the location from the plurality of the locations in the base grid directly to an electronic device and location-centric information includes a list of selectable icons, the database further configured to output location centric information associated with the property directly to the electronic device based on a selection of one of the icons.

However, obtaining information according to the present location of a electronic device is well known in the art, and Want is evidence of the fact. Want teaches a system that allows a user of a portable electronic device to retrieve location specific information, residing in an internet web page, by the user being present in the location, the system links the coordinates of the location of the portable electronic device with an existing web page that provides information associated with the location such as local areas of interest, shopping centers, and the like (abstract, lines 1-13; col. 2, lines 6-33; col. 5, lines 6-16).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to one having ordinary skill in the art, to modify Sotiroff to include the feature of outputting information about a particular geographic location when a user of a portable device is present at the location, as suggested by Want, in order to provide the user with information associated or specific to his/her present location.

And, Wharton, in the same field of invention of Sotiroff, teaches a system for a real estate application in which a user is presented with a map on a PDA containing a plurality of candidate houses (i.e., properties) as a result of an initial search (Fig. 3a) in where the user can tap on the houses to retrieve more information about the houses, after the user tap on a house identifier, the PDA displays a home information screen that includes six information buttons (i.e., location-centric information associated with a property comprising a list of selectable icons) as shown in figure 3b-3c, that provide access to various categories of information about the selected home (col. 4, lines 47-col. 5, lines 1-13).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention, to modify Sotiroff to provide a database configured to output location-centric information associated with a property at one of the location from the plurality of the locations in the base grid directly to an electronic device and location-centric information includes a list of selectable icons, as suggested by Wharton, in order to provide access to various categories of information about a selected house (i.e., property) from the plurality of candidate houses shown in a map.

Regarding claim 13, the combination of Sotiroff, Want, and Wharton disclose the database of claim 12, Sotiroff discloses wherein at least some of the plurality of data fields include geocodes associated with locations within a base grid (col. 4, lines 5-19; coordinates of the point selected on a map by a user).

Regarding claim 17, the combination of Sotiroff, Want, and Wharton disclose the database of claim 12, Sotiroff discloses wherein the at least one information data field includes: at least two information data fields associated with a location within the grid, the at least two information data fields being selectively accessible by the electronic device (col.2, line 62-col.3, lines 1-9; the user is

presented with different field of information about properties such as apartment size, number of bedrooms, cost of leasing of the property, etc).

Regarding claim 24, the combination of Sotiroff, Want, and Wharton disclose the database of claim 12, Wharton wherein the location-centric information is associated with a potential real estate transaction at the property (col. 5, lines 8-47; the house information screen shows six information buttons (i.e., location-centric information) that the user selects to access various categories of information associated with a real estate transaction such as a description of a property, floor plans, fact sheet, etc.).

Regarding claim 25, the combination of Sotiroff, Want, and Wharton disclose the database of claim 12, Sotiroff wherein the database is located at a location different from the one location from the plurality of locations (see Fig. 1).

Regarding claim 26, the combination of Sotiroff, Want, and Wharton disclose the database of claim 12, Sotiroff wherein the database is located at a location different from the property (see Fig. 1).

12. **Claims 14-15** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sotiroff et al. in views of WANT et al. and WHARTON et al., and further in view of JUPPI et al.

Regarding claims 14 and 15, the combination of Sotiroff, Want, and Wharton disclose the database of claim 12, but does not expressly disclose wherein at least one of the plurality of information data fields is configured to be updated with sensor data dynamically via a network, and wherein the sensor data being associated with a weather condition.

However, databases updated with sensor data and associated with weather conditions are well known in the art and Juppi is evidence of the fact. Juppi teaches a database compiled from information measured by a local transmitter such as a weather probe or sensor that can be updated

Art Unit: 2617

over time, and which is transmitted to a mobile station (p.0033; p.0036-0038). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention, to further include information from a sensor, e.g. weather data, in a geographical database, as suggested by Juppi, in order for a user to be informed of the most recent weather conditions in his/her present location.

13. **Claim 16** is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over SOTIROFF et al. in views of WANT et al., WHARTON et al., and JUPPI et al., and further in view of OBRADOVICH (US 2006/0006990 A1).

Regarding claim 16, the combination of Sotiroff, Want, Wharton, and Juppi disclose the database of claim 14, but does not expressly disclose wherein the sensor data includes sensor data associated with a moveable object.

However, Obradovich teaches that a vehicle provided with a sensor, may serve as a “moving sensor” for collecting weather, traffic, and road condition information using radar and infrared sensors, and the collected information is then transmitted to a central computer for distribution (p.0005; p.0095). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention, to include sensor data in a database associated with a moveable object as suggested by Obradovich, because it is well known in the art the use of “moving sensors” for recollection of real-time information of for example weather, traffic, and road conditions, to help drivers avoid areas of inclement weather, congested areas, and undesirable roads in particular geographic areas.

Conclusion

Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Marisol Figueroa whose telephone number is (571) 272-7840. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday Thru Friday 8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m..


If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Lester G. Kincaid can be reached on (571) 272-7922. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like

Art Unit: 2617

assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.


Marisol Figueroa
Art Unit 2617


LESTER G. KINCAID
SUPERVISORY PRIMARY EXAMINER